

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 DEAE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00
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LA/DP:AHEYMAN
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ARA/AND:DTOYRYLA

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O 111353Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, EAID, BL

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS PROGRAM

REF: (A) LA PAZ 3080, (B) USAID MARCH 1978, PROJECT STATUS
REPORT (PAGE 70), (C) 76 STATE 207837 (AUGUST 20, 1976)

1. DEPARTMENT AND AID ARE CONCERNED AT IMPLICATIONS OF
REPORTED FAILURE OF GOB TO FOLLOW UP ON COCA REGISTRATION
WITH VIGOROUS ACTION TO PREVENT NEW PLANTINGS. REFERENCES
INDICATE AN INCREASE IN COCA ACREAGE SINCE COMPLETION OF
THE REGISTRY, WITH FIGURES RUNNING AS HIGH AS 30 PERCENT IN
SOME AREAS OF THE YUNGAS.

2. DECISION TO ACCELERATE CONSIDERATION OF YUNGAS/CHAPARE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT GOB MEETING
BASIC CONDITIONS OF NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM. IF GOB
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UNABLE OR UNWILLING PREVENT LARGE SCALE NEW PLANTINGS,
DESIRABILITY OF MOVING AHEAD ON LOAN FOR FY 78 IS QUESTION-
ABLE.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD REVIEW THE AIDE MEMOIRE AND ACCOMPANYING
INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN REF (C) WHICH PROVIDE THE BASIS
FOR OUR COMMITMENT OF FUNDS TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE

COCA GROWING REGIONS. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONSIDER

ENFORCEMENT OF NEW PLANTINGS BAN AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY LOAN OR GRANT ACTIVITY BEYOND THE PILOT PROJECT CURRENTLY UNDER WAY. DEVELOPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT MUST MOVE IN TANDEM AT LEAST TO THE EXTENT OF PREVENTING AN EXPANSION OF COCA ACREAGE. GIVEN THE LARGE AMOUNT OF FUNDS THE U.S. PROPOSES TO COMMIT TO THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO RISK THE GOB DETERMINING, AFTER THE FACT, THAT THEY CANNOT CONTROL EXPANSION OF THE COCA CROP.

4. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS EMBASSY'S RELUCTANCE TO PUSH IMPLEMENTATION OF BAN ON NEW PLANTINGS IN VIEW OF UPCOMING ELECTIONS. A THREE-MONTH DELAY MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE IF WE COULD BE ASSURED OF FORCEFUL ACTION IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. HOWEVER, WE WONDER IF THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST OF MANY DELAYS. MIGHT THE NEWLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT WANT ANOTHER DELAY IN ORDER TO GET ITSELF FULLY FUNCTIONING?

5. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ITS VIEWS ON THE FOREGOING INCLUDING DETAILED UPDATE ON ACREAGE EXPANSION, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IN ADDITION DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW EMBASSY INTERNALLY COORDINATES AND ASSURES FOCUS AND PRIORITIES OF THE DEVELOPMENTAL AND ENFORCEMENT SEGMENTS OF OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM.
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6. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES ACROSS-THE-BOARD EVALUATION OF NARCOTICS STRATEGY FOR BOLIVIA IS OVERDUE. ORIGINAL CONCEPT WAS THAT THESE WOULD BE PERIODIC REVIEWS INCORPORATED INTO PILOT PROJECT PROCESS TO DETERMINE NEEDED REVISIONS AND ASSESS PROGRESS. BECAUSE OF DELAYS IN PILOT PROJECT AND CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH REVIEWS HAVE NOT TAKEN PLACE. THE USDA EVALUATION TEAM SCHEDULED FOR JULY WILL PROVIDE PARTIAL LOOK AT TECHNICAL ASPECTS BUT WILL NOT GET INTO BASIC QUESTIONS OF PROGRAM STRATEGY. DEPARTMENT PROPOSES THAT A GENERAL INTERAGENCY REVIEW OF THE PROGRAM BE SCHEDULED SHORTLY AFTER THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT. VANCE

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